



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
23 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0023

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

SUSAN A. GENDRON  
COMMISSIONER

October 9, 2008

Maureen King, RPC Co-Chair  
87 Fletcher Street  
Kennebunk, ME 04043

Dear Ms. King:

Thank you for the revised Reorganization Plan that you submitted on behalf of MSAD 71 and the Arundel School Department on October 7, 2008 for Department review for compliance with the school reorganization law, P.L. 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX.

I recognize how much time, effort and thoughtful work is required to complete a reorganization plan and appreciate the efforts made, to date, by all those involved.

Members of my staff and I have reviewed the submission and offer the comments and notes listed below to assist you in completing the plan. If you make any substantive change(s) to any part of the plan beyond those listed below, please be sure to note those on the Updated Reorganization Plan Cover Sheet Checklist, along with notation of those items that have changed per the notes contained in this response.

**General Documentation (Submittal Sheet)**

- All information submitted as required.

**Checklist/Plan Text Items**

Items Checked "Complete"

With respect to the items you checked as "complete", please note the following:

*\* Required Elements*

12. For the purpose of informing the voters, this section should address the estimate of cost savings to be achieved in accordance with 20-A MRSA 1461(3)(A)(12). Please revise this section to provide information regarding these

savings and their estimated amounts. Please also consider using the guidance offered in the Drummond Woodsum workshop materials. The MSAD 16/Monmouth/Dresden/Richmond plan, Sabattus/Wales/Litchfield/Oak Hill CSD plan, and the Raymond/Windham plan all provide excellent examples of this section and are available at:  
<http://www.maine.gov/education/reorg/plansandresponses.html> .

We will review all items on the checklist again, upon your completion of the plan.

### **SUBMISSION OF REVISIONS:**

Please provide the additional materials to complete your plan as soon as possible in order to ensure that you meet the November 4, 2008 referendum date requirements. Please include:

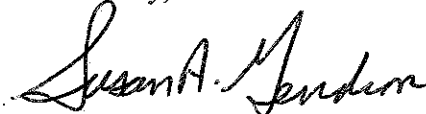
- Any additional data required
- An updated Submittal Page with Signatures
- An updated Cover Sheet Checklist
- A copy of this Response from the Commissioner.

I will respond no more than 14 days after the revisions/additional materials are refiled with the Department. As you are the contact person identified on the Submittal Sheet, this response is addressed to you but with the understanding that you will share it with your school administrative unit board members, RPC members and others involved with this Reorganization Plan.

Finally, what I am reviewing for approval is a plan (or a submission, if the plan is incomplete) which is by its very nature prospective, with steps yet to be taken or finalized; and any review comments or approval given are in relation to the elements required under P.L 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX but not the legality of all the activities proposed. Thus, I strongly recommend that you have your own legal advisor(s) review the details of any particular transaction proposed in your plan (particularly with respect to the disposition of property, to debt, and to employee contracts/relations) as you proceed, to ensure the legality of the steps you'll be taking to implement the plan. If that review leads to any substantive changes in any parts of your plan, please be sure to submit an amended plan to the Department for our review and our file.

Again, my sincere thanks for your efforts.

Sincerely,



Susan A. Gendron  
Commissioner of Education

cc: Patrick Manuel, Superintendent, MSAD 71  
Alton Hadley III, Superintendent, Arundel School Department  
Dana Peck, RPC Co-Chair  
Rep. Alan Casavant  
Rep. Gary A. Connor  
Rep. Christopher W. Babbidge  
Sen. Nancy B. Sullivan